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(54) **PIXEL WALL CONFIGURATION FOR DIRECTING FLUID FLOW FOR FABRICATING ELECTROWETTING DISPLAYS**

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(71) Applicant: **Amazon Technologies, Inc.**, Reno, NV (US)

(72) Inventors: **Ernest Jannis Phaff**, Nuenen (NL); **Hermanus Johannes Jansen**, Veldhoven (NL); **Henricus Matheus Josephus Leenen**, Limburg (NL)

(73) Assignee: **Amazon Technologies, Inc.**, Seattle, WA (US)

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CPC **G02B 26/005** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
CPC G02B 26/005
USPC 359/290
See application file for complete search history.

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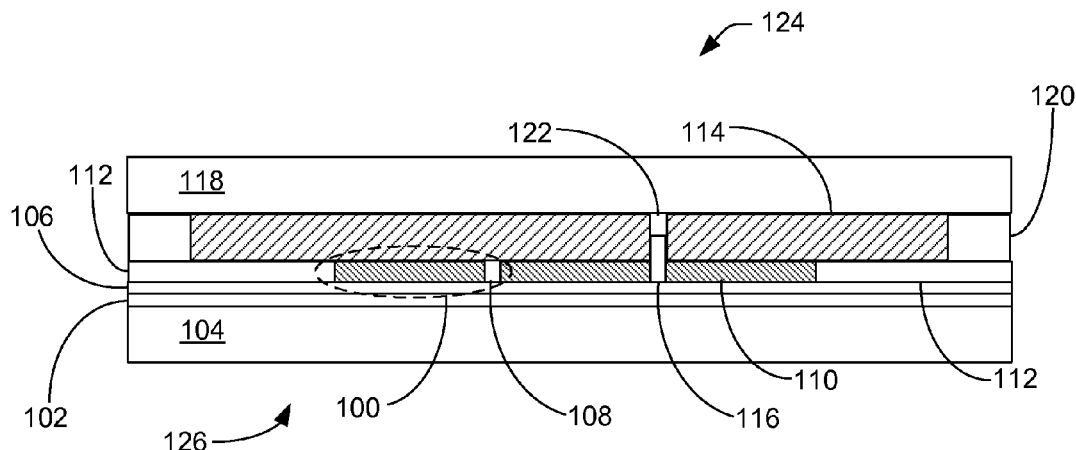
Primary Examiner — James Jones

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Lee & Hayes, PLLC

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An apparatus for fabricating electronic displays comprises a glass substrate that includes pixel arrays formed on the glass substrate. Individual pixels of the pixel arrays include pixel walls to retain a first fluid, such as oil. The pixel arrays may include an edge seal to retain a second fluid, such as an electrolyte solution, that overlays the pixel walls and the first fluid. A fluid dispenser includes slits that are configured to dispense the first fluid and the second fluid onto the glass substrate at a non-orthogonal angle with respect to the pixel arrays. First portions of the pixel walls extend above second portions of the pixel walls to impart a flow of the first fluid and the second fluid in a direction that the first fluid and the second fluid are dispensed by the fluid dispenser.

19 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets



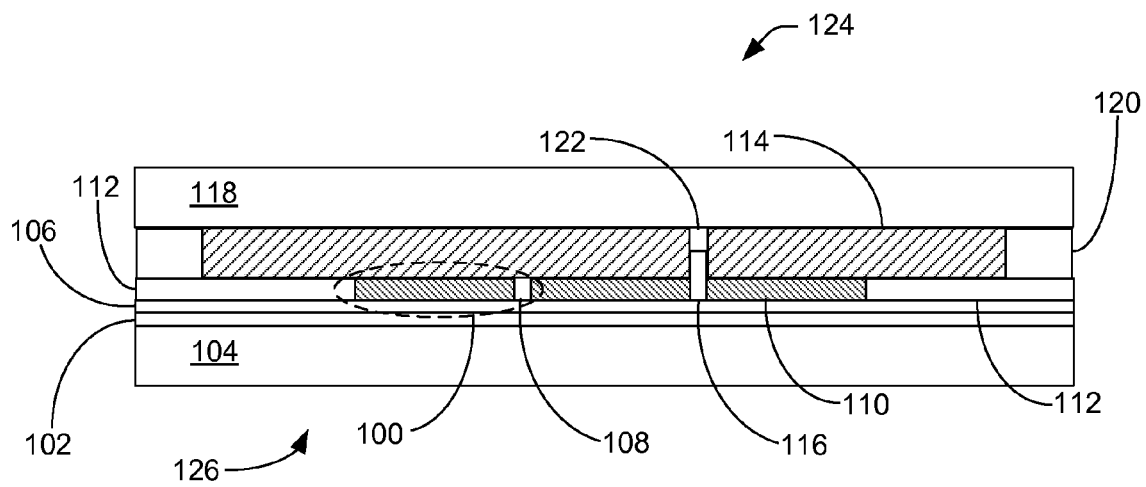


FIG. 1

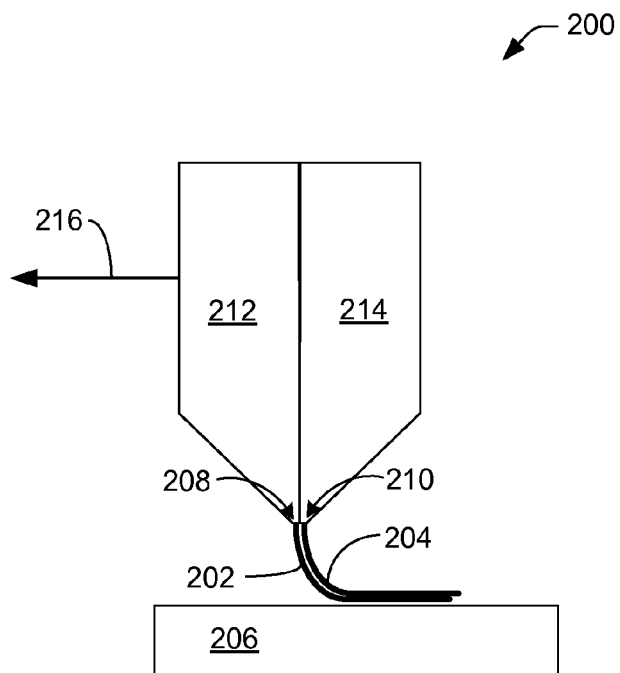


FIG. 2

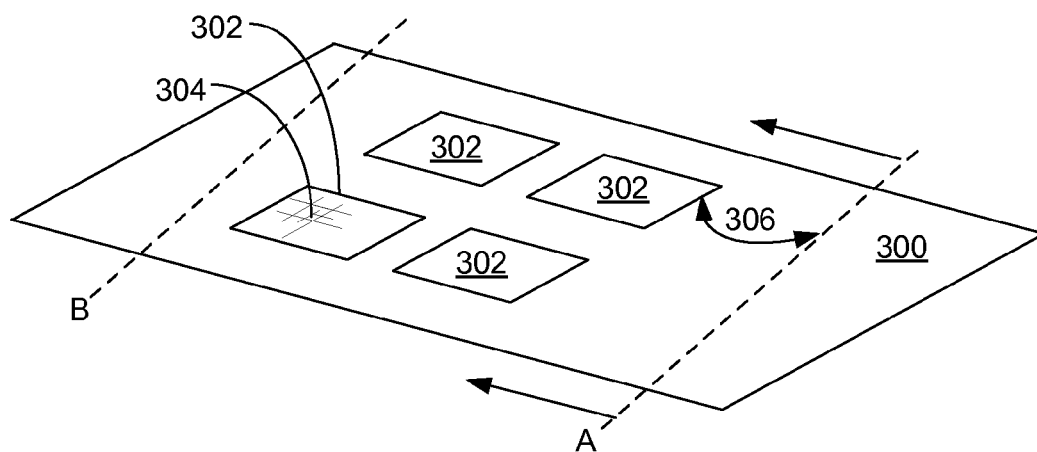


FIG. 3

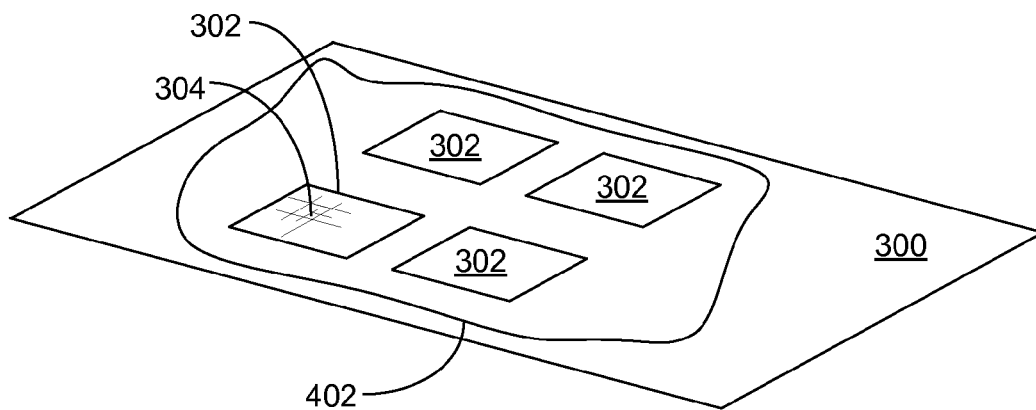


FIG. 4

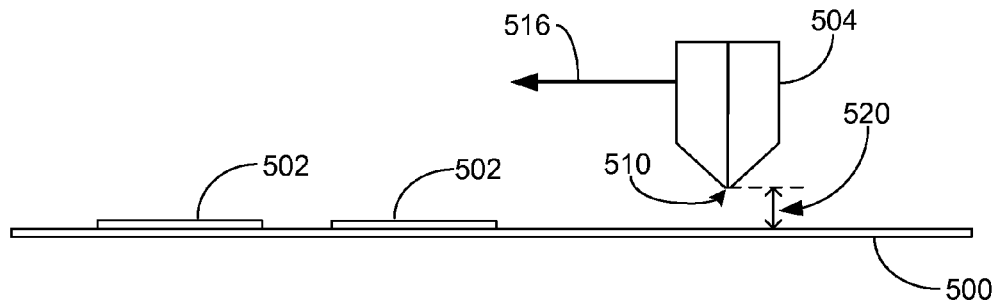


FIG. 5

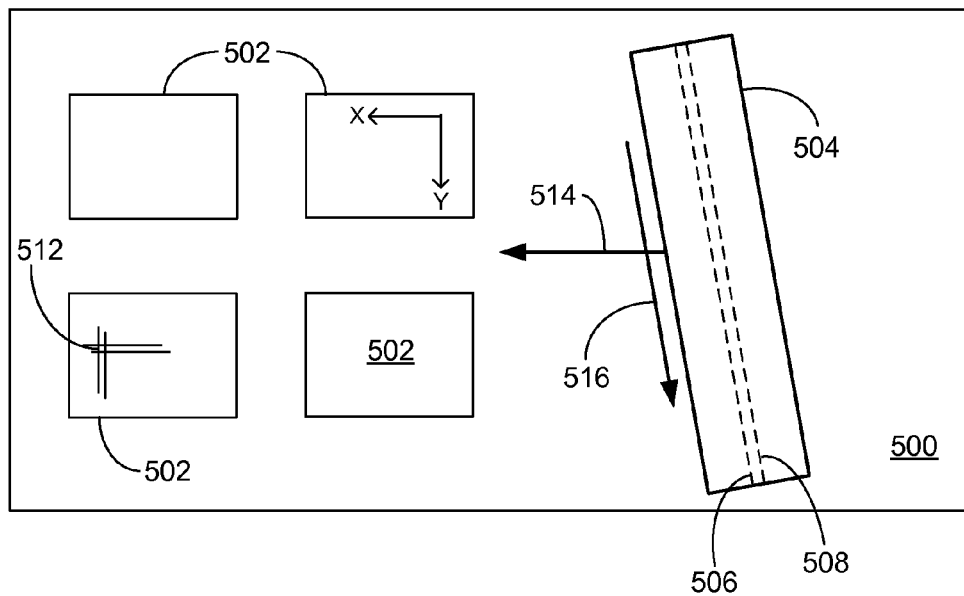


FIG. 6

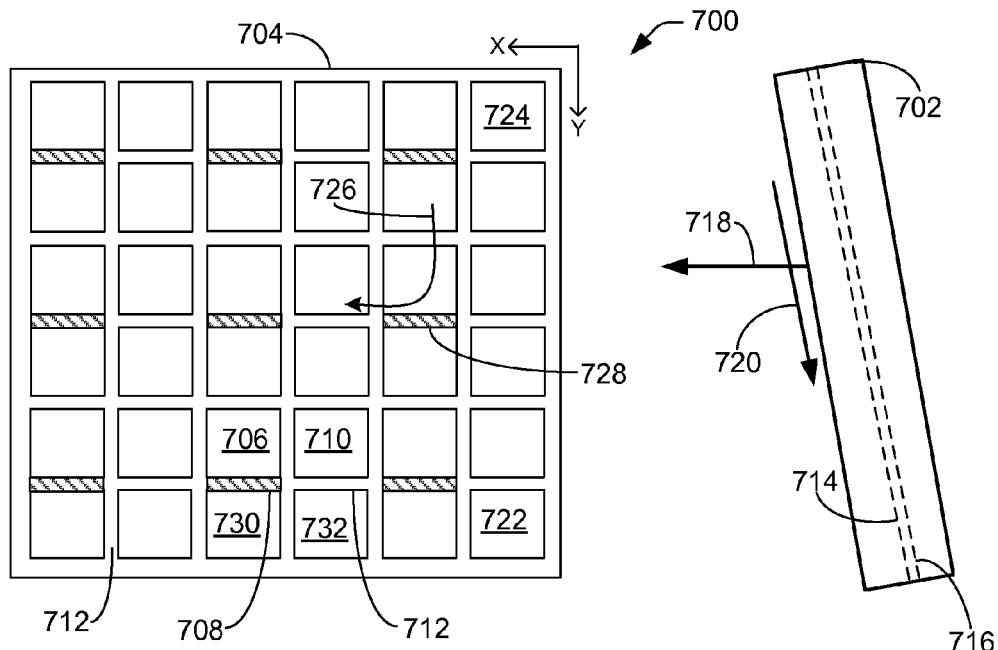


FIG. 7

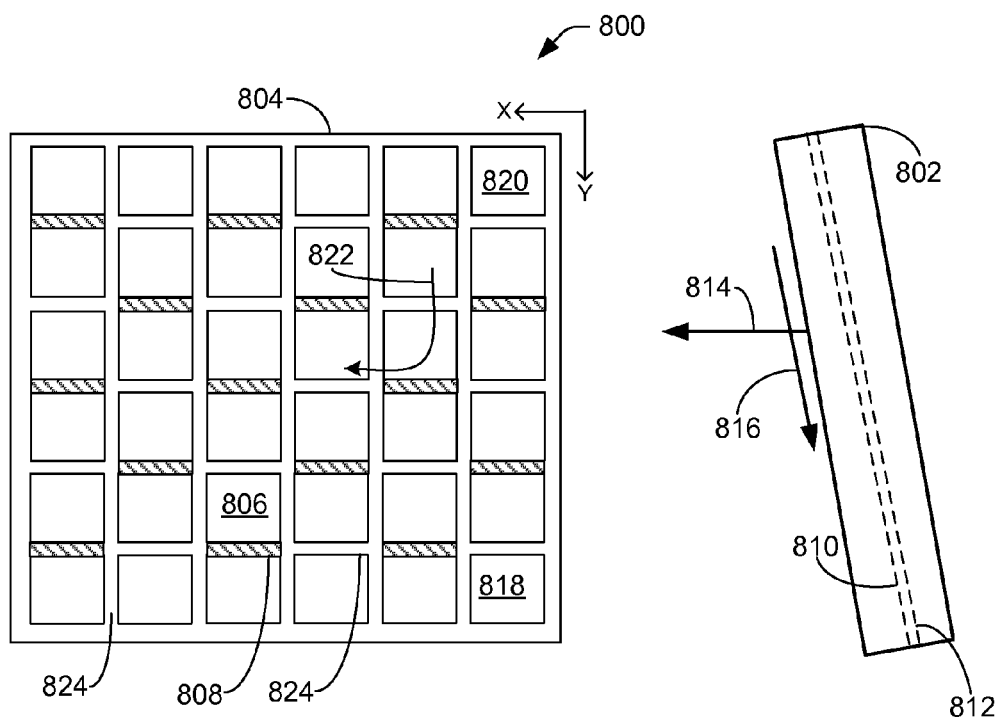


FIG. 8

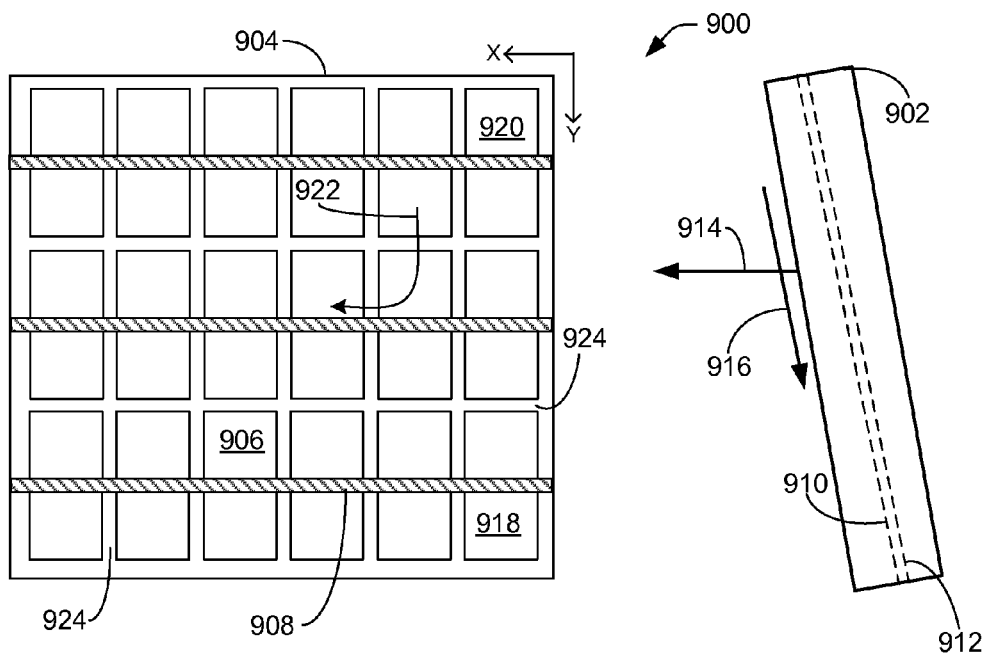


FIG. 9

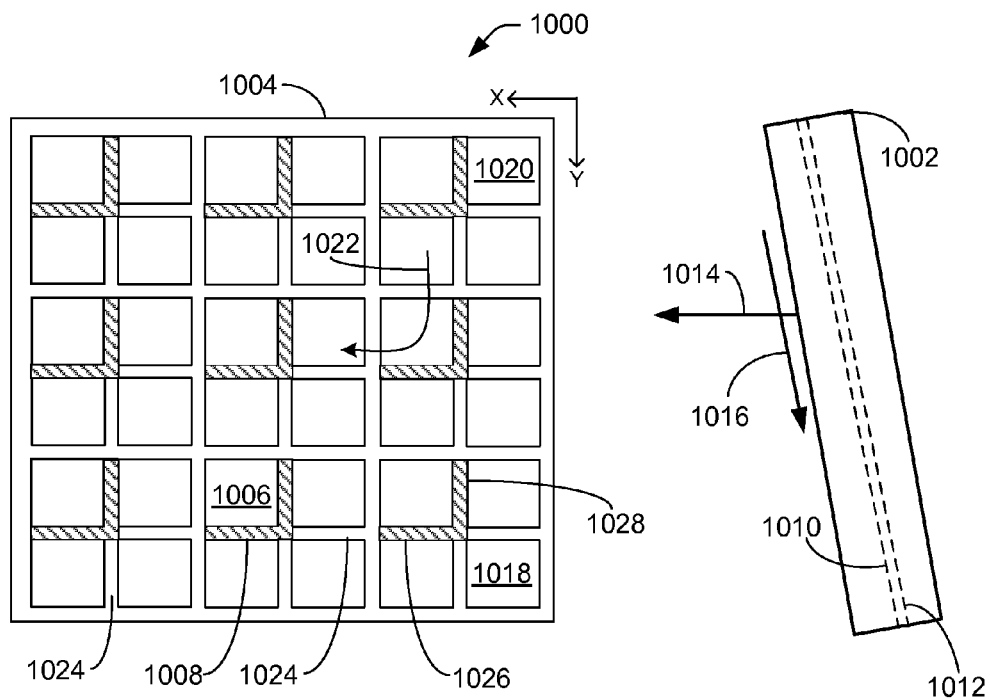


FIG. 10

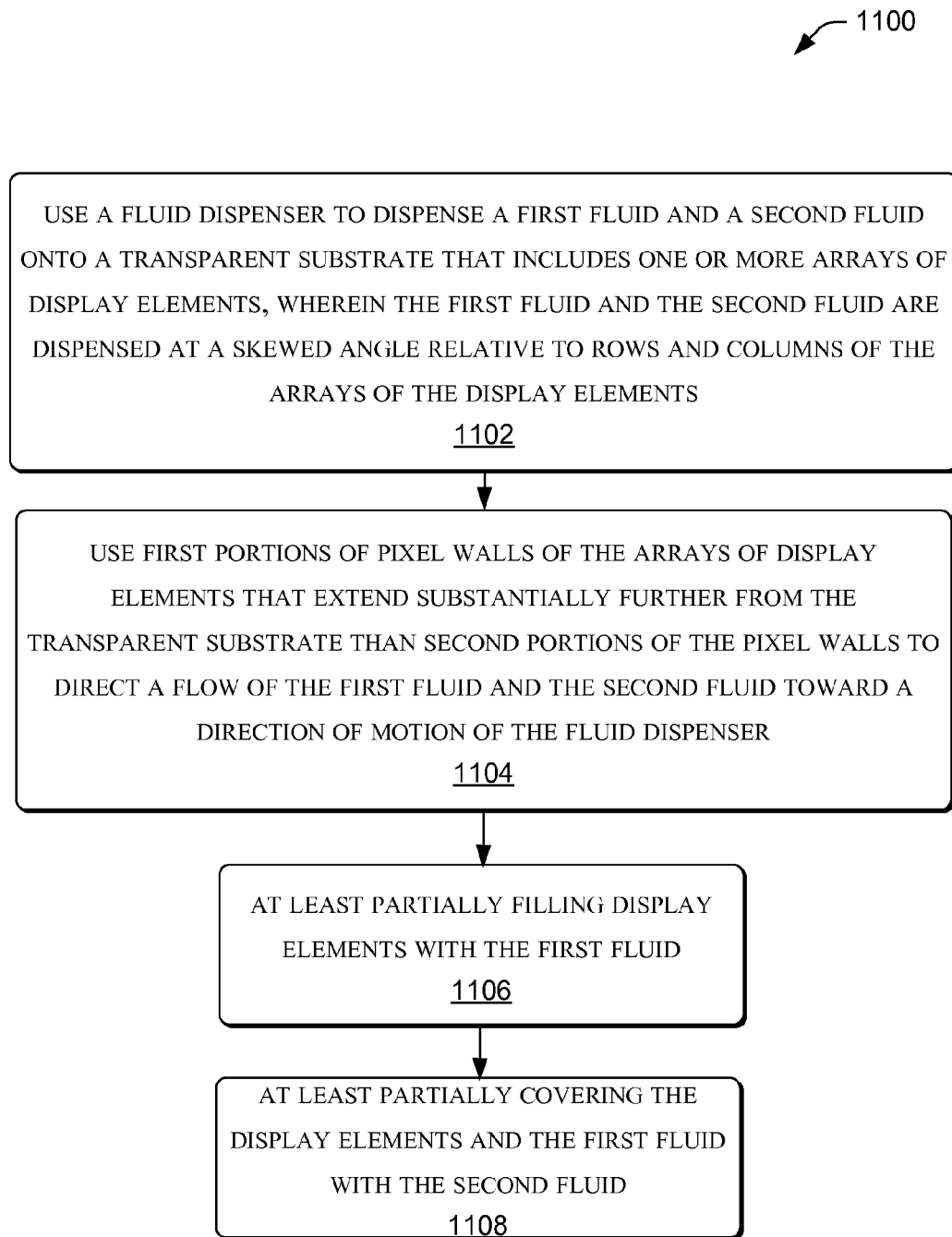


FIG. 11

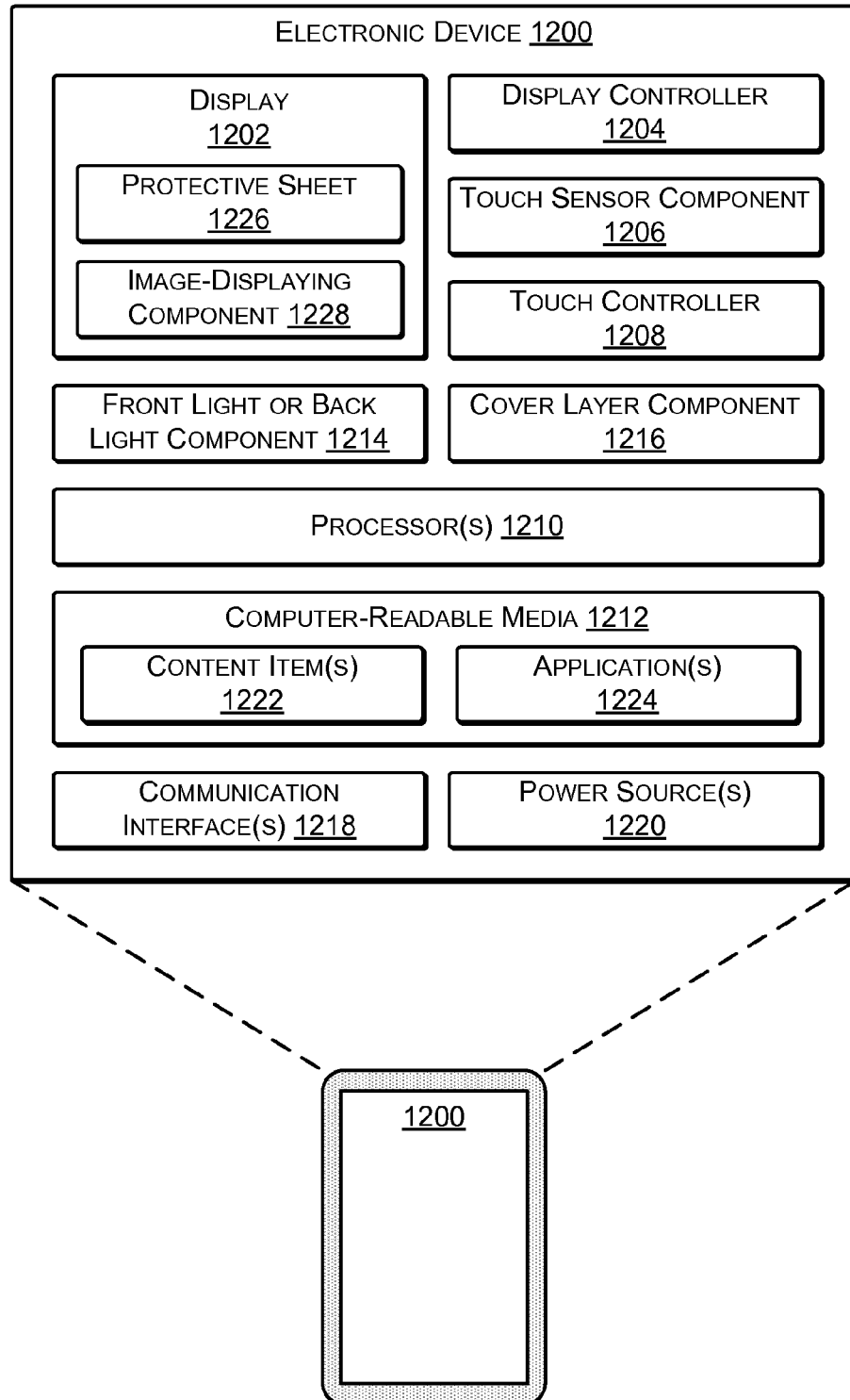


FIG. 12

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PIXEL WALL CONFIGURATION FOR DIRECTING FLUID FLOW FOR FABRICATING ELECTROWETTING DISPLAYS

BACKGROUND

Electronic displays are found in numerous types of electronic devices such as electronic book (“eBook”) readers, cellular telephones, smart phones, portable media players, tablet computers, wearable computers, laptop computers, netbooks, desktop computers, televisions, appliances, home electronics, automotive electronics, augmented reality devices, and so forth. Electronic displays may present various types of information, such as user interfaces, device operational status, digital content items, and the like, depending on the kind and purpose of the associated device. The appearance and quality of a display can affect a user’s experience with the electronic device and the content presented thereon. Accordingly, finding ways to enhance user experience and satisfaction continues to be a priority. Moreover, increased multimedia use imposes high demands on designs, packaging, and fabricating display devices, as content available for mobile use becomes more extensive and device portability continues to be a high priority.

Electronic displays, such as electrowetting displays, include an array of pixels individually bordered by pixel walls that retain a fluid such as opaque oil, for example. Light transmission through each pixel is adjustable by electronically controlling a position of the fluid in the pixel. A process of fabricating an electrowetting display includes a number of steps, a number of which can involve improvements that lead to lower fabricating costs and higher yields.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The detailed description is set forth with reference to the accompanying figures. In the figures, the left-most digit(s) of a reference number identifies the figure in which the reference number first appears. The use of the same reference numbers in different figures indicates similar or identical items or features.

FIG. 1 illustrates a cross-section of a portion of an electrowetting display device, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 2 illustrates a side view of a double-slit fluid dispenser, according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 3 and 4 illustrate perspective views of a substrate with display element arrays formed thereon, according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 5 and 6 illustrate top views of a substrate with display element arrays formed thereon and a double-slit fluid dispenser, according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 7-10 illustrate top views of portions of an array of display elements having raised pixel walls and a double-slit fluid dispenser, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 11 is a flow diagram of a process for fabricating an electrowetting display device, according to various example embodiments.

FIG. 12 illustrates an example electronic device that may incorporate a display device, according to some embodiments.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

In various embodiments described herein, electronic devices include displays for presenting content and other

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information. In some examples, the electronic devices may include one or more components associated with the display, such as a touch sensor component layered atop the display for detecting touch inputs, a front light or back light component for lighting the display, and/or a cover layer component, which may include antiglare properties, antireflective properties, anti-fingerprint properties, anti-cracking properties, and the like. Various embodiments described herein also include techniques for assembling electronic devices including these components for the displays and other features described herein.

Embodiments describe apparatuses and techniques for fabricating electrowetting displays. For example, in a batch fabrication environment, a number of display devices comprising arrays of display elements (e.g., pixels or subpixels) may be formed on a single substrate, which may be transparent. A fluid dispenser dispenses a first fluid (e.g., an opaque or colored liquid, such as oil) and a second fluid (e.g., that may be considered to be an electrolyte solution or other conductive liquid) onto the substrate that includes the display devices. The first fluid and the second fluid may be immiscible with one another. The fluid dispenser dispenses the first fluid into individual display elements. The fluid dispenser dispenses the second fluid so as to cover the dispensed first fluid and the individual display elements. Uniformity of thickness and volume of dispensed first and second fluids across the substrate is desired. When filling square or rectangular pixels arrays of display elements, the fluid dispenser may be at a skewed (e.g., a non-orthogonal) angle in reference to the array. While overall this angle may improve uniformity of the first fluid in the display elements of the arrays, an undesirable secondary effect resulting from the angled orientation of the fluid dispenser may tend to decrease the uniformity. During fluid dispensing, the angled orientation leads to a relatively small quantity of first (and second) fluid flowing in a direction transverse to the direction of travel of the fluid dispenser. An increase in the volume of the first fluid in display elements downstream of such a transverse flow may undesirably result in these display elements having a slightly higher fill level as compared to display elements located upstream.

To help mitigate such non-uniformity, in some embodiments, pixel walls of display elements of the arrays formed on the substrate may vary in height so as to affect flow and distribution of dispensed first and second fluids across the substrate. For example, as described in detail below, raised portions of pixel walls at right angles to fluid flow may contribute to channeling dispensed first and second fluids in directions that lead to increased uniformity of thickness of the dispensed first and second fluids across the substrate, compared to the case without raised pixel walls. Such a process of channeling the dispensed first and second fluids occurs during the dispensing process.

A fluid dispenser may include a first slit to dispense the first fluid and a second slit to dispense the second fluid. Herein, such a fluid dispenser is called a “double-slit” fluid dispenser, or merely a “fluid dispenser”, though the fluid dispenser may be a “multi-slit” fluid dispenser and include more than two slits (e.g. one or more slits may be used for each fluid).

A display device, such as an electrowetting display device, can be a transmissive, reflective, or transreflective display that generally includes an array of display elements (e.g., pixels or subpixels) configured to be operated by an active matrix addressing scheme. For example, rows and columns of electrowetting elements are operated by controlling voltage levels on a plurality of source lines and gate

lines. In this fashion, the display device can produce an image by selecting particular display elements to transmit, reflect or block light. Display elements are addressed (e.g., selected) via rows and columns of the source lines and gate lines that are electrically connected to transistors (e.g., used as switches) included in each display element. Transistors take up a relatively small fraction of the area of each display element to allow light to efficiently pass through (or reflect from) the display element. Herein, a display element may, unless otherwise specified, comprise a pixel or subpixel of an electrowetting display device. Such a pixel or subpixel may be the smallest light transmissive element of a display that is individually operable to directly control an amount of light transmission or reflection through the element. For example, in some implementations, a display element may be a pixel that includes a red subpixel, a green subpixel, and a blue subpixel. In other implementations, a display element may be a pixel that is a smallest component, e.g., the pixel does not include any subpixels.

Electrowetting displays include an array of display elements comprising pixels and/or subpixels located between two support plates, such as a substrate and a top plate. For example, the substrate may be a support plate that, in cooperation with the top plate, contains display elements that include at least one electrode, electrowetting oil, electrolyte solution and pixel walls between the support plates. Support plates may include glass, plastic (e.g., a transparent thermoplastic such as PMMA or other acrylic), or other transparent material and may be made of a rigid or flexible material, for example.

Individual pixels are surrounded by pixel walls made, for instance, from photoresist material. Pixel walls retain at least a first fluid which is electrically non-conductive, such as opaque or colored oil, in the individual pixels. A cavity formed between the support plates is filled with the first fluid (e.g., retained by pixel walls) and a second fluid (e.g., an electrolyte solution) which is electrically conductive or polar and may be water or a salt solution such as a solution of potassium chloride water. The second fluid may be transparent, but may be colored or light absorbing. The second fluid is immiscible with the first fluid.

In addition to display elements, spacers and edge seals can also be located between two clear support plates. Hereinafter, example embodiments are described as including clear substrates or support plates that comprise glass support plates. However, support plates can comprise any of a number of transparent amorphous materials, such as plastic, glass, quartz, semiconductors, and so on, and claimed subject matter is not limited in this respect. Herein, describing an element or material as being "transparent" means that the element or material can transmit a relatively large fraction of the light incident upon it. For example, a transparent substrate or layer may transmit more than 70% or 80% of the light impinging on its surface, though claimed subject matter is not limited in this respect.

Spacers and edge seals which mechanically connect a first support plate with a second overlying support plate, or which form a separation between the first support plate and the second support plate, contribute to mechanical integrity of the electrowetting display. Edge seals, for example, being disposed along a periphery of an array of electrowetting display device elements, may contribute to retaining (e.g., first and second) fluids between the first support plate and the second overlying support plate. Spacers are desirably transparent so as to not hinder throughput of light in the electrowetting display. Transparency of spacers can at least partially depend on the refractive index of the spacer mate-

rial, which should be similar to or the same as the refractive indices of surrounding media. Spacers are also desirably chemically inert to surrounding media.

In various embodiments, a display element of a display device includes, among other things, an electrode layer and a thin film transistor (TFT) that is switched to either select or deselect the electrowetting element using active matrix addressing. A TFT is a particular type of field-effect transistor that includes thin films of an active semiconductor layer as well as a dielectric layer and metallic contacts over a supporting (but non-conducting) substrate, which may be glass or any of a number of other transparent materials, for example.

In some embodiments, TFTs are fabricated onto a glass (or other transparent) substrate or top plate of an electrowetting display device. For example, TFTs may be disposed on a top surface of the glass substrate opposite the side of the substrate adjacent to the display elements, for example.

In some embodiments, a display device as described herein can comprise a portion of a system that includes one or more processors and one or more computer memories, which may reside on a control board, for example. Display software can be stored on the one or more memories and can be operable with the one or more processors to modulate light that is received from an outside source (e.g., ambient room light) or out-coupled from a light guide of the display device. For example, display software can include code executable by a processor to modulate optical properties of individual pixels of the electrowetting display based, at least in part, on electronic signals representative of image or video data. The code can cause the processor to modulate the optical properties of pixels by controlling electrical signals (e.g., voltages, currents, fields, and so on) on, over, or in layers of the electrowetting display.

FIG. 1 is a cross-section of a portion of an electrowetting display device illustrating several electrowetting elements **100**, according to some embodiments. An electrode layer **102** is formed on a substrate **104** (e.g., a glass substrate). In some implementations, a dielectric barrier layer (not illustrated) may at least partially separate electrode layer **102** from a hydrophobic layer **106** also formed on substrate **104**. In some implementations, hydrophobic layer **106** can comprise a fluoropolymer, such as AF1600, produced by DuPont, based in Wilmington, Del. Hydrophobic layer **106** can also be any of a number of water-repelling materials that affect wettability of an adjacent material, for example. Pixel walls **108** form a patterned electrowetting element grid on hydrophobic layer **106**. Pixel walls **108** may comprise a photoresist material, such as epoxy-based negative photoresist SU-8. The patterned electrowetting element grid comprises rows and columns that form an array of electrowetting elements. For example, an electrowetting element can have a width and length in a range of about 50 to 500 microns.

A first fluid **110**, which can have a thickness (e.g., depth) in a range of about 1 to 10 microns, for example, overlies hydrophobic layer **106**. First fluid **110** is partitioned by pixel walls **108** of the patterned electrowetting element grid. An outer rim **112** can comprise the same material as pixel walls **108**. A second fluid **114**, such as an electrolyte solution, overlies first fluid **110** and pixel walls **108** of the patterned electrowetting element grid. An electrolyte solution can be electrically conductive or polar. For example, an electrolyte solution may be, among other things, water or a salt solution such as potassium chloride water.

In some embodiments, the electrowetting display device may comprise raised pixel walls **116** that are taller than "normal-height" pixel walls **108**. For example, raised pixel

walls **116** may extend further upward into second fluid **114** as compared to pixel walls **108**. As another way of describing these relatively tall pixel walls, raised pixel walls **116** may extend further from substrate **104** as compared to pixel walls **108**.

A top plate **118** covers second fluid **114** and edge seals **120** retain second fluid **114** over the electrowetting element array. Top plate **116** may be supported by edge seals **118** and spacers **122** that are interspersed throughout the array of display elements **100**. The substrate and the top plate may be made of glass or polymer and may be rigid or flexible, for example. In some implementations, raised pixel walls **116** may extend up to top plate **118**, thus having a same or similar height as that of spacers **122**. For example, some or all spacers **122** may be located over at least a portion of the regions where pixel walls **108** or **116** intersect, though claimed subject matter is not limited in this respect. In such implementations, both spacers **122** and raised pixel walls **116** may contribute to mechanical integrity of the electrowetting display device by providing support to top plate **118**.

A voltage **V** applied across, among other things, second fluid **114** and electrode **102** of individual electrowetting elements can control transmittance or reflectance of the individual electrowetting elements.

The display device has a viewing side **124** on which an image formed by the electrowetting display device can be viewed, and a rear side **126**. Top plate **118** faces viewing side **124** and substrate **104** faces rear side **126**. In an alternative embodiment, the electrowetting display device may be viewed from rear side **126**. The electrowetting display device may be a reflective, transmissive or transfective type. The electrowetting display device may be a segmented display type in which the image is built up of segments. The segments can be switched simultaneously or separately. Each segment includes one electrowetting element **100** or a number of electrowetting elements **100** that may be neighboring or distant from one another. Electrowetting elements **100** included in one segment are switched simultaneously, for example. The electrowetting display device may also be an active matrix driven display type or a passive matrix driven display, just to name a few examples.

Second fluid **114** is immiscible with first fluid **110**. Herein, substances are immiscible with one another if the substances do not substantially form a solution. Second fluid **114** is electrically conductive or polar, and may be water or a salt solution such as a solution of potassium chloride in a mixture of water and ethyl alcohol, for example. Second fluid **114** is preferably transparent, but may be colored or light absorbing. First fluid **110** is electrically non-conductive and may for instance be an alkane like hexadecane or (silicone) oil. Hydrophobic layer **106** is arranged on substrate **104** to create an electrowetting surface area. The hydrophobic character causes first fluid **110** to adhere preferentially to substrate **104** since first fluid **110** has a higher wettability with respect to the surface of hydrophobic layer **106** than second fluid **114**. Wettability relates to the relative affinity of a fluid for the surface of a solid. Wettability increases with increasing affinity, and it can be measured by the contact angle formed between the fluid and the solid and measured internal to the fluid of interest. For example, such a contact angle can increase from relative non-wettability of more than 90° to complete wettability at 0°, in which case the fluid tends to form a film on the surface of the solid.

First fluid **110** absorbs at least a part of the optical spectrum. First fluid **110** may be transmissive for a part of the optical spectrum, forming a color filter. For this purpose,

the fluid may be colored by addition of pigment particles or dye, for example. Alternatively, first fluid **110** may be black (e.g., absorbing substantially all parts of the optical spectrum) or reflecting. Hydrophobic layer **106** may be transparent or made to be reflective. A reflective layer may reflect the entire visible spectrum, making the layer appear white, or part of it, making it have a color.

When a voltage is applied across electrowetting element **100**, electrowetting element **100** will enter into an active state. Electrostatic forces will impart motion to the second fluid **114** toward electrode layer **102**, thereby repelling first fluid **110** from the area of hydrophobic layer **106** to pixel walls **108** surrounding the area of hydrophobic layer **106**, to a droplet-like form. This action uncovers first fluid **110** from the surface of hydrophobic layer **106** of electrowetting element **100**. When the voltage across electrowetting element **100** is returned to an in-active signal level of zero or a value near to zero, electrowetting element **100** will return to an inactive state, where first fluid **110** flows back to cover hydrophobic layer **106**. In this way, first fluid **110** forms an electrically controllable optical switch in each electrowetting element **100**. Of course, such details of an electrowetting display device are merely examples, and claimed subject matter is not limited in this respect.

FIG. 2 illustrates a side view of a double-slit fluid dispenser **200**, according to some embodiments. Fluid dispenser **200** is configured to dispense a first fluid **202** (e.g., an opaque oil) and a second fluid **204** (e.g., an electrolyte solution) onto a substrate **206** that includes one or more display element arrays (not illustrated in FIG. 2). For example, a portion of such a substrate may be the same or similar to substrate **104** illustrated in FIG. 1. In some implementations, first fluid **202** and second fluid **204** may be the same as or similar to first fluid **110** and second fluid **114**, respectively, shown in FIG. 1. Fluid dispenser **200** may include a first slit **208** for dispensing first fluid **202** and a second slit **210** for dispensing second fluid **204**. In some implementations, the first fluid may be transiently contained in first reservoir **212** and the second fluid may be transiently contained in second reservoir **214**. A distance between first slit **208** and second slit **210** may be in the order of several millimeters, for example, though claimed subject matter is not limited in this respect. Lengths (e.g., as measured into and out of the page of FIG. 2) of first slit **208** and second slit **210** may range from several centimeters to about 40 centimeters, just to give some examples. In particular, the lengths of the slits are sufficient to at least approximately span the width of the substrate onto which fluid dispenser **200** dispenses the first and second fluids.

During a fabrication process for placing the first and second fluids in display element arrays formed on a substrate, fluid dispenser **200** moves in a direction **216** relative to the underlying substrate **206**. Fluid dispenser **200** dispenses first fluid **202** into the display element arrays' individual display elements, which retain the first fluid by their respective pixel walls. Fluid dispenser **200** dispenses second fluid **204** so as to cover the first fluid and the individual display elements.

FIG. 3 illustrates a perspective view of a substrate **300** with display element arrays **302** formed thereon, according to some embodiments. Although four display element arrays **302** are illustrated in the figures (e.g., four being batch-processed together), any number is possible. For example, the four display element arrays **302** will later be cut into individual portions so as to become four display devices. These four individual portions will include portions of substrate **300**, first and second fluids, and portions of a top

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plate overlying each of the four display element arrays **302**. Accordingly, portions of substrate **300** underlying individual display element arrays **302** will later become a permanent part of the individual display devices (e.g., as a substrate such as **104** illustrated in FIG. 1). Display element arrays **302** include a relatively large number (e.g., thousands or millions) of individual display elements **304** (e.g., pixels or subpixels), as depicted by a few orthogonal lines in FIG. 3 to indicate the presence of rows and columns of display elements **304**.

A double-slit fluid dispenser, such as **200** illustrated in FIG. 2, for example, may be placed over substrate **300** anywhere between positions "A" and "B", indicated in FIG. 3. Such a double-slit fluid dispenser is configured to dispense a first fluid and a second fluid onto substrate **300** and display element arrays **302**. In particular, the double-slit fluid dispenser dispenses the first and second fluids as the double-slit fluid dispenser moves over substrate **300** (and display element arrays **302**).

In some embodiments, the double-slit fluid dispenser may be oriented in a rotated position relative to rows and columns of display element arrays **302**. For example, the double-slit fluid dispenser may subtend an angle **306** relative to rows (or columns) of display element arrays **302**. Angle **306** may be in a range of about 5 degrees to about 30 degrees, though claimed subject matter is not limited in this respect. The double-slit fluid dispenser being at a skewed angle relative to display element arrays **302** can lead to improved uniformity of distribution of the first fluid in individual display elements **304** after a process of filling using the double-slit fluid dispenser. Such a skewed orientation allows for a relatively smooth fluid flow transition as the first fluid flows from one row of display elements into the next row of display elements.

FIG. 4 illustrates a perspective view of substrate **300** after the double-slit fluid dispenser passed across substrate **300** while dispensing the first fluid and the second fluid. Individual display elements **304** of arrays **302** are at least partially filled with the first fluid. The first fluid is dispensed relatively uniformly by the double-slit fluid dispenser so that the first fluid at least partially and evenly fills the display elements. The second fluid subsequently covers the partially filled display element arrays (at least partially filled with the first fluid) and a substantial portion of substrate **300**, forming a second fluid puddle **402**.

Subsequent to the situation depicted in FIG. 4, substrate **300** and display element arrays **302** formed thereon may be covered by a top plate, such as **118** shown in FIG. 1. Even though pixel walls may have unequal heights, such a top plate may be supported by spacers, such as **122**, shown in FIG. 1, that may extend at least as high as the highest pixel wall, for example. The resulting structure may be placed in a roller to squeeze out excess fluids (e.g., particularly the second fluid, such as electrolyte solution) and to laminate the top plate onto display element arrays **302**. This lamination process also squeezes the top plate toward substrate **300** so that the top plate becomes supported by the structures, such as edge seals and spacers (e.g., edge seals **120** and spacers **122** illustrated in FIG. 1) previously formed on substrate **300**. Consequently, while the first fluid is substantially retained within individual display elements **304**, the second fluid is retained in the display element array **302** by the edge seals in cooperation with the substrate and the top plate. Subsequent to the laminating process, individual display element arrays **302**, and portions of the top plate laminated

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to individual display element arrays **302**, can be partitioned by cutting the structure at or near peripheries of the display element arrays, for example.

FIGS. 5 and 6 illustrate side and top views, respectively, of a substrate **500** with display element arrays **502** formed thereon, according to some embodiments. Also illustrated is a double-slit fluid dispenser **504** that includes a first slit **506** and a second slit **508** in a region **510** for dispensing first and second fluids. This configuration is the same or similar to that illustrated in FIGS. 3 and 4. Display element arrays **502** include a relatively large number of individual display elements **512**. Portions of substrate **500** underlying individual display element arrays **502** will later become a permanent part of display devices (e.g., as a substrate such as **104** illustrated in FIG. 1). Double-slit fluid dispenser **504**, which is similar to or the same as **200** illustrated in FIG. 2, for example, is initially placed over substrate **500** in preparation to dispense first and second fluids onto substrate **500** and display element arrays **502**. Double-slit fluid dispenser **504** is oriented at a skewed angle (e.g., a non-orthogonal angle) relative to rows and columns of display element arrays **502**, as explained below. When double-slit fluid dispenser **504** is set into motion over display element arrays **502**, as indicated by arrow **514**, double-slit fluid dispenser **504** dispenses the first fluid from slit **506** and the second fluid from slit **508** onto substrate **500** and display element arrays **502**.

FIG. 6 includes orthogonal reference axes "X" and "Y". For example, the X-axis is parallel to rows of display elements **512** and represents a direction of travel **514** of double-slit fluid dispenser **504**. The Y-axis is parallel to columns of display elements **512** and represents a direction that is transverse to such a direction of travel. In particular, double-slit fluid dispenser **504** dispenses the first and second fluids as the double-slit fluid dispenser moves over substrate **500** (and display element arrays **502**) along the X-axis. However, slits **506** and **508** are at a skewed angled from the X-axis so that display elements are filled with the first fluid at an angle. As explained above, such an angle can lead to uniform filling of the display elements. By being angled, however, double-slit fluid dispenser **504** can lead to a net flow of fluid transversely, across substrate **500**. For example, such a net flow may be substantially parallel with the first and second slits **506** and **508**, as indicated by arrow **516**. Undesirably, such a net transverse flow of fluid can lead to uneven filling of display elements by the first fluid. For example, display elements **512** toward the lower regions (e.g., in the Y-axis direction) of substrate **502** may receive more first fluid as compared to display elements in the upper regions (e.g., in the negative Y-axis direction) of the substrate.

As mentioned above, uniformity of the first fluid in the display elements subsequent to a fill process is an important aspect of fabrication. Thus, in embodiments described below, pixel walls of the display elements **512** are configured to redirect a flow of fluids from a direction along the Y-axis to a direction along the X-axis, which is the same as the travel direction of double-slit fluid dispenser **504**. Such a fluid flow in the X-direction helps reduce transverse fluid flow in the Y-direction. For example, fluid flowing in the Y-direction may encounter raised pixel walls and subsequently deviate toward the X-direction. Reducing the transverse fluid flow can improve filling uniformity of the display elements **512**.

Double-slit fluid dispenser **504** may move across substrate **500** and display element arrays **502** at a height **520** so that double-slit fluid dispenser **504** is about 150 microns above

non-raised pixel walls (such as pixel walls **108**, illustrated in FIG. **1**) of display element arrays **502**. Raised pixel walls, such as **116** in FIG. **1**, may be less than 50 to 250 microns from double-slit fluid dispenser **504**.

FIG. **7** illustrates a top view of a portion **700** of an array of display elements having raised pixel walls and a double-slit fluid dispenser **702**, according to some embodiments. Double-slit fluid dispenser **702** is configured to dispense a first fluid (e.g., an opaque oil) and a second fluid (e.g., an electrolyte solution) onto substrate **704** that includes one or more display element arrays that include display elements **706** having at least one raised pixel wall **708** and display elements **710** having a non-raised pixel wall **712**. In some implementations, raised pixel wall **708** and non-raised pixel wall **712** may comprise the same material, such as photoresist material, which may be formed by a single deposition/masking process, for example. A portion of substrate **704** may be the same or similar to substrate **104** illustrated in FIG. **1**. Fluid dispenser **702** may include a first slit **714** for dispensing the first fluid and a second slit **716** for dispensing the second fluid. A distance between first slit **714** and second slit **716** may be in a range of about 1 to 5 millimeters, for example. Lengths (e.g., as measured into and out of the page of FIG. **7**) of first slit **714** and second slit **716** may range from several centimeters to about 40 centimeters, just to give an example. In particular, the lengths of the slits are sufficient to at least approximately span the width of the substrate onto which fluid dispenser **702** dispenses first and second fluids.

During a fabrication process for placing first and second fluids in display element arrays formed on substrate **704**, fluid dispenser **702** moves in a direction **718** relative to the underlying substrate. This direction is parallel to the X-axis shown in the figure, though fluid dispenser **702** is oriented at a skewed angle relative to the X-axis. The X-axis and the Y-axis represent alignment of rows and columns of the display elements in the arrays. Fluid dispenser **702** dispenses the first fluid into individual display elements **706** and **710** of the display element arrays. Fluid dispenser **702** dispenses the second fluid so as to cover the first fluid and the at least partially filled individual display elements.

As mentioned above, due at least in part to fluid dispenser **702** being oriented at a skewed angle, a net flow of first and second fluids develops in a transverse direction, which is shown at least approximately by arrow **720**. This transverse fluid flow may lead to a distribution of first and second fluids that increases in the Y-axis direction. For example, display element **722** may be filled to a greater depth with the first fluid compared to a fill depth of pixel **724**. To mitigate such uneven distribution of first and second fluids that arises due in part to the skewed orientation of fluid dispenser **702**, portions of pixel walls of the array of display elements are taller than other portions of the pixel walls. The taller pixel walls may redirect fluid flow. For example, arrow **726** represents flow of fluid initially flowing parallel to the Y-axis that is re-directed toward the X-axis by raised pixel wall **728**. Such re-directing of fluid flow from one direction to another (e.g., from flow along the Y-axis to flow along the X-axis) can help mitigate non-uniform distribution of fluids dispensed from fluid dispenser **702** oriented at a skewed angle.

For example, display element **706** includes raised pixel wall **708**, whereas display element **710** does not include a raised pixel wall, and instead is surrounded by “normal-height” pixel walls **712** having heights less than those of raised pixel walls **708**. In some implementations, raised pixel walls **708** may be about twice as tall as pixel walls **712**,

which may be about 4 microns tall. In other implementations, raised pixel walls **708** may extend further from substrate **704** than pixel walls **712** by a factor in the range of about 1.5 to about 4.0, for example. In still other implementations, raised pixel walls **708** may extend a same distance from substrate **704** as spacers, such as **122** shown in FIG. **1**, for example.

In the embodiment shown in FIG. **7**, raised pixel walls **708** are distributed across the array of display elements so that every other pair of neighboring display elements in rows of the array shares a raised pixel wall. For example, the pair of display elements **706** and **730** share raised pixel wall **708**. In contrast, the pair of display elements **710** and **732** share a non-raised (e.g., “normal-height”) pixel wall **712**. Such a distribution of raised pixel walls is merely one example of a number of possible distributions. Placement or distribution of raised pixel walls may be determined based, at least in part, on fluid dynamics of the first and/or second fluids with respect to features and structures of the display elements formed on substrate **704**. Fluid dynamics may depend, at least in part, on viscosity, wettability, and rate and angle of dispensing of the first and/or second fluids relative to the substrate and structures formed thereon, just to name a few examples.

FIG. **8** illustrates a top view of a portion **800** of an array of display elements having raised pixel walls and a double-slit fluid dispenser **802**, according to some embodiments. Portion **800** is similar to portion **700** of the array of display elements illustrated in FIG. **7**, except that portion **800** includes a different distribution of raised pixel walls, for example.

Double-slit fluid dispenser **802** is configured to dispense a first fluid (e.g., an opaque oil) and a second fluid (e.g., an electrolyte solution) onto substrate **804** that includes one or more display element arrays that include display elements **806** having at least one raised pixel wall **808**. For example, a portion of such a substrate may be the same or similar to substrate **104** illustrated in FIG. **1**. Fluid dispenser **802** may include a first slit **810** for dispensing the first fluid and a second slit **812** for dispensing the second fluid. A distance between first slit **810** and second slit **812** may be in a range of about 1 to 5 millimeters, for example. Lengths (e.g., as measured into and out of the page of FIG. **7**) of first slit **810** and second slit **812** may range from several centimeters to about 40 centimeters, just to give an example. In particular, the lengths of the slits may be sufficient to at least approximately span the width of the substrate onto which fluid dispenser **802** dispenses first and second fluids.

During a fabrication process for placing first and second fluids in display element arrays formed on substrate **804**, fluid dispenser **802** moves in a direction **814** relative to the underlying substrate. This direction is parallel to the X-axis shown in the figure, though fluid dispenser **802** is oriented at a skewed angle relative to the X-axis. The X-axis and the Y-axis represent alignment of rows and columns of the display elements in the arrays. Fluid dispenser **802** dispenses the first fluid into individual display elements **806** of the display element arrays. Fluid dispenser **802** dispenses the second fluid so as to cover the first fluid and the at least partially filled individual display elements.

As mentioned above, due at least in part to fluid dispenser **802** being oriented at a skewed angle, a net flow of first and second fluids develops in a transverse direction, which is shown at least approximately by arrow **816**. This transverse fluid flow may lead to a distribution of first and second fluids that increases in the Y-axis direction. For example, display element **818** may be filled to a greater depth with the first

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fluid compared to a fill depth of pixel **820**. To mitigate such uneven distribution of first and second fluids that arises due in part to the skewed orientation of fluid dispenser **802**, portions of pixel walls of the array of display elements are taller than other portions of the pixel walls. The taller pixel walls may redirect fluid flow. For example, arrow **822** represents flow of fluid initially flowing parallel to the Y-axis that is re-directed toward the X-axis by raised pixel wall **808** that is at substantially a right angle to the fluid flow **822**. Such re-directing flow of fluid from one direction to another (e.g., from flow along the Y-axis to flow along the X-axis) can help mitigate non-uniform distribution of fluids dispensed from fluid dispenser **802** oriented at a skewed angle.

In the example implementation shown in FIG. **8**, display element **806** includes raised pixel wall **808** and “normal-height” pixel walls **824** having heights less than those of raised pixel walls **808**. In some implementations, raised pixel walls **808** may be about twice as tall as pixel walls **824**, which may be about 4 microns tall.

Raised pixel walls **808** are distributed across the array of display elements so that every other pixel wall partitioning neighboring display elements in rows and columns of the array comprises a raised pixel wall. Such a distribution of raised pixel walls is merely one example of a number of possible distributions. As mentioned above, placement or distribution of raised pixel walls may be determined based, at least in part, on fluid dynamics of the first and/or second fluids with respect to features and structures of the display elements formed on substrate **804**.

FIG. **9** illustrates a top view of a portion **900** of an array of display elements having raised pixel walls and a double-slit fluid dispenser **902**, according to some embodiments. Portion **900** is similar to portion **700** of the array of display elements illustrated in FIG. **7**, except that portion **900** includes a different distribution of raised pixel walls, for example.

Double-slit fluid dispenser **902** is configured to dispense a first fluid and a second fluid onto substrate **904** that includes one or more display element arrays that include display elements **906** having at least one raised pixel wall **908**. Fluid dispenser **902** may include a first slit **910** for dispensing the first fluid and a second slit **912** for dispensing the second fluid.

During a fabrication process for placing first and second fluids in display element arrays formed on substrate **904**, fluid dispenser **902** moves in a direction **914** relative to the underlying substrate. This direction is parallel to the X-axis shown in the figure, though fluid dispenser **902** is oriented at a skewed angle relative to the X-axis. The X-axis and the Y-axis represent alignment of rows and columns of the display elements in the arrays. Fluid dispenser **902** dispenses the first fluid into individual display elements **906** of the display element arrays. Fluid dispenser **902** dispenses the second fluid so as to cover the first fluid and the at least partially filled individual display elements.

As mentioned above, due at least in part to fluid dispenser **902** being oriented at a skewed angle, a net flow of first and second fluids develops in a transverse direction, which is shown at least approximately by arrow **916**. This transverse fluid flow may lead to a distribution of first and second fluids that increases in the Y-axis direction. For example, display element **918** may be filled to a greater depth with the first fluid compared to a fill depth of pixel **920**. To mitigate such uneven distribution of first and second fluids that arises due in part to the skewed orientation of fluid dispenser **902**, portions of pixel walls of the array of display elements are taller than other portions of the pixel walls. The taller pixel

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walls may redirect fluid flow. For example, arrow **922** represents flow of fluid initially flowing parallel to the Y-axis that is re-directed toward the X-axis by raised pixel wall **908** that is at substantially a right angle to the fluid flow **922**. Such re-directing flow of fluid from one direction to another (e.g., from flow along the Y-axis to flow along the X-axis) can help mitigate non-uniform distribution of fluids dispensed from fluid dispenser **902** oriented at a skewed angle.

In the example implementation shown in FIG. **9**, display element **906** includes raised pixel wall **908** and “normal-height” pixel walls **924** having heights less than those of raised pixel walls **908**. In some implementations, raised pixel walls **908** may be about twice as tall as pixel walls **924**, which may be about 4 microns tall.

Raised pixel walls **908** are distributed across the array of display elements so that every other row of pixel walls of the array comprises a raised pixel wall. Such a distribution of raised pixel walls is merely one example of a number of possible distributions. As mentioned above, placement or distribution of raised pixel walls may be determined based, at least in part, on fluid dynamics of the first and/or second fluids with respect to features and structures of the display elements formed on substrate **904**.

FIG. **10** illustrates a top view of a portion **1000** of an array of display elements having raised pixel walls and a double-slit fluid dispenser **1002**, according to some embodiments. Portion **1000** is similar to portion **700** of the array of display elements illustrated in FIG. **7**, except that portion **1000** includes “L”-shaped raised pixel walls, for example.

Double-slit fluid dispenser **1002** is configured to dispense a first fluid and a second fluid onto substrate **1004** that includes one or more display element arrays that include display elements **1006** having at least one raised pixel wall **1008**. Fluid dispenser **1002** may include a first slit **1010** for dispensing the first fluid and a second slit **1012** for dispensing the second fluid.

During a fabrication process for placing first and second fluids in display element arrays formed on substrate **1004**, fluid dispenser **1002** moves in a direction **1014** relative to the underlying substrate. This direction is parallel to the X-axis shown in the figure, though fluid dispenser **1002** is oriented at a skewed angle relative to the X-axis. The X-axis and the Y-axis represent alignment of rows and columns of the display elements in the arrays. Fluid dispenser **1002** dispenses the first fluid into individual display elements **1006** of the display element arrays. Fluid dispenser **1002** dispenses the second fluid so as to cover the first fluid and the at least partially filled individual display elements.

As mentioned above, due at least in part to fluid dispenser **1002** being oriented at a skewed angle, a net flow of first and second fluids develops in a transverse direction, which is shown at least approximately by arrow **1016**. This transverse fluid flow may lead to a distribution of first and second fluids that increases in the Y-axis direction. For example, display element **1018** may be filled to a greater depth with the first fluid compared to a fill depth of pixel **1020**. To mitigate such uneven distribution of first and second fluids that arises due in part to the skewed orientation of fluid dispenser **1002**, portions of pixel walls of the array of display elements are taller than other portions of the pixel walls. The taller pixel walls may redirect fluid flow. For example, arrow **1022** represents flow of fluid initially flowing parallel to the Y-axis that is re-directed toward the X-axis by raised pixel wall **1008** that is at substantially a right angle to the fluid flow **1022**. Such re-directing flow of fluid from one direction to another (e.g., from flow along the Y-axis to flow along the

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X-axis) can help mitigate non-uniform distribution of fluids dispensed from fluid dispenser **1002** oriented at a skewed angle.

In the example implementation shown in FIG. **10**, display element **1006** includes raised pixel wall **1008** and “normal-height” pixel walls **1024** having heights less than those of raised pixel walls **1008**. In some implementations, raised pixel walls **1008** may be about twice as tall as pixel walls **1024**, which may be about 4 microns tall. In other implementations, raised pixel walls may vary in height. For example, portions **1026** of raised pixel walls in the X-direction (e.g., along rows) may have a different raised height compared to portions **1028** of raised pixel walls in the Y-direction (e.g., along columns).

Raised pixel walls **1008** may be distributed in any of a number of configurations. As mentioned above, placement or distribution of raised pixel walls may be determined based, at least in part, on fluid dynamics of the first and/or second fluids with respect to features and structures of the display elements formed on substrate **1004**.

FIG. **11** is a flow diagram of a process for fabricating an electrowetting display device, according to various embodiments. For example, the display device may be the same as or similar to the display device illustrated in FIG. **1**. At block **1102**, a fluid dispenser is used to dispense a first fluid and a second fluid onto a substrate, which may be transparent, that includes one or more arrays of display elements. For example, such a double-slit fluid dispenser may be similar to **200**, illustrated in FIG. **2**. The fluid dispenser, which may be a double-slit fluid dispenser, may dispense a first fluid, such as an opaque oil, and a second fluid, such as an electrolyte solution. The fluid dispenser may dispense the first fluid and the second fluid at a skewed angle relative to rows and columns of the arrays of the display elements.

At block **1104**, first portions of pixel walls of the arrays of display elements that extend substantially further from the transparent substrate than second portions of the pixel walls are used to redirect flow of the first fluid and the second fluid toward a direction of motion of the fluid dispenser. At block **1106**, display elements of the arrays are at least partially filled with the first fluid. Pixel walls of the individual display elements retain the first fluid to the individual display elements. At block **1108**, the display elements and the first fluid are at least partially covered with the second fluid. Subsequent to process **1100**, a top plate may be placed over, and laminated to, the substrate and the arrays of display elements. The resulting structure may be partitioned into individual display devices.

FIG. **12** illustrates an example electronic device **1200** that may incorporate any of the display devices discussed above. The device **1200** may comprise any type of electronic device having a display. For instance, the device **1200** may be a mobile electronic device (e.g., an electronic book reader, a tablet computing device, a laptop computer, a smart phone or other multifunction communication device, a portable digital assistant, a wearable computing device, an automotive display, etc.). Alternatively, the device **1200** may be a non-mobile electronic device (e.g., a computer display, a television, etc.). In addition, while FIG. **12** illustrates several example components of the electronic device **1200**, it is to be appreciated that the device **1200** may also include other conventional components, such as an operating system, system busses, input/output components, and the like. Further, in other examples, such as in the case of a television or computer monitor, the electronic device **1200** may only include a subset of the components illustrated.

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Regardless of the specific implementation of the electronic device **1200**, the device **1200** includes a display **1202** and a corresponding display controller **1204**. The display **1202** may represent a reflective or transmissive display in some instances, such as an electronic paper display, a reflective or transmissive LCD display, or the like. Electronic paper displays represent an array of display technologies that largely mimic the look of ordinary ink on paper. In contrast to conventional backlit displays, electronic paper displays typically reflect light, much as ordinary paper does. In addition, electronic paper displays are often bi-stable, meaning that these displays are capable of holding text or other rendered images even when very little or no power is supplied to the display. Some examples of the display **1202** that may be used with the implementations described herein include bi-stable LCD displays, micro electromechanical system (MEMS) displays, such as interferometric modulator displays, cholesteric displays, electrophoretic displays, electrofluidic pixel displays, electrowetting displays, photonic ink displays, gyricon displays, and the like. In other implementations, or for other types of devices **1200**, the display **1202** may be an active display such as a fluid crystal display, a plasma display, a light emitting diode display, an organic light emitting diode display, and so forth. Accordingly, implementations herein are not limited to any particular display technology.

In an implementation, the display comprises an electrowetting display that employs an applied voltage to change the surface tension of a fluid in relation to a surface. For example, such an electrowetting display may include the array of pixels **100** illustrated in FIG. **1**, though claimed subject matter is not limited in this respect. By applying a voltage to a hydrophobic surface, the wetting properties of the surface can be modified so that the surface becomes more wettable to the second liquid. As one example of an electrowetting display, the modification of the surface tension acts as an optical switch by contracting a colored oil film when a voltage is applied to individual pixels of the display. When the voltage is absent, the colored oil forms a continuous film within a pixel, and the color may thus be visible to a user of the display. On the other hand, when the voltage is applied to the pixel, the colored oil is displaced and the pixel becomes transparent. When multiple pixels of the display are independently activated, the display can present a color or grayscale image. The pixels may form the basis for a transmissive, reflective, or transmissive/reflective (transreflective) display. Further, the pixels may be responsive to high switching speeds (e.g., on the order of several milliseconds), while employing small pixel dimensions. Accordingly, the electrowetting displays herein may be suitable for applications such as displaying video content.

Of course, while several different examples have been given, it is to be appreciated that the reflective displays described herein may comprise any other type of electronic-paper technology or reflective-display technology, examples of which are provided above. In addition, while some of the examples described above are discussed as rendering black, white, and varying shades of gray, it is to be appreciated that the described techniques apply equally to reflective displays capable of rendering color pixels. As such, the terms “white,” “gray,” and “black” may refer to varying degrees of color in implementations utilizing color displays. For instance, where a pixel includes a red color filter, a “gray” value of the pixel may correspond to a shade of pink while a “black” value of the pixel may correspond to a darkest red of the color filter. Furthermore, while some examples herein are described in the environment of a reflective display, in

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other examples, the display **1202** may represent a backlit display, examples of which are mentioned above.

In addition to including the display **1202**, FIG. **12** illustrates that some examples of the device **1200** may include a touch sensor component **1206** and a touch controller **1208**. In some instances, at least one touch sensor component **1206** resides with, or is stacked on, the display **1202** to form a touch-sensitive display (e.g., an electronic paper touch-sensitive display). Thus, the display **1202** may be capable of both accepting user touch input and rendering content in response to or corresponding to the touch input. As several examples, the touch sensor component **1206** may comprise a capacitive touch sensor, a force sensitive resistance (FSR), an interpolating force sensitive resistance (IFSR) sensor, or any other type of touch sensor. In some instances, the touch sensor component **1206** is capable of detecting touches as well as determining an amount of pressure or force of these touches.

FIG. **12** further illustrates that the electronic device **1200** may include one or more processors **1210** and one or more computer-readable media **1212**, as well as a front light component **1214** (which may alternatively be a backlight component in the case of a backlit display) for lighting the display **1202**, a cover layer component **1216**, such as a cover glass or cover sheet, one or more communication interfaces **1218** and one or more power sources **1220**. The communication interfaces **1218** may support both wired and wireless connection to various networks, such as cellular networks, radio, WiFi networks, short range networks (e.g., Bluetooth®), infrared (IR), and so forth.

Depending on the configuration of the electronic device **1200**, the computer-readable media **1212** (and other computer-readable media described throughout) is an example of computer storage media and may include volatile and non-volatile memory. Thus, the computer-readable media **1212** may include, but is not limited to, RAM, ROM, EEPROM, flash memory, or other memory technology, or any other medium that can be used to store computer-readable instructions, programs, applications, media items, and/or data which can be accessed by the electronic device **1200**.

The computer-readable media **1212** may be used to store any number of functional components that are executable on the processor **1210**, as well as content items **1222** and applications **1224**. Thus, the computer-readable media **1212** may include an operating system and a storage database to store one or more content items **1222**, such as eBooks, audio books, songs, videos, still images, and the like. The computer-readable media **1212** of the electronic device **1200** may also store one or more content presentation applications to render content items on the device **1200**. These content presentation applications may be implemented as various applications **1224** depending upon the content items **1222**. For instance, the content presentation application may be an electronic book reader application for rendering textual electronic books, an audio player for playing audio books or songs, a video player for playing video, and so forth.

In some instances, the electronic device **1200** may couple to a cover (not illustrated in FIG. **12**) to protect the display (and other components in the display stack or display assembly) of the device **1200**. In one example, the cover may include a back flap that covers a back portion of the device **1200** and a front flap that covers the display **1202** and the other components in the stack. The device **1200** and/or the cover may include a sensor (e.g., a Hall effect sensor) to detect when the cover is open (i.e., when the front flap is not atop the display and other components). The sensor may send a signal to the front light component **1214** when the

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cover is open and, in response, the front light component **1214** may illuminate the display **1202**. When the cover is closed, meanwhile, the front light component **1214** may receive a signal indicating that the cover has closed and, in response, the front light component **1214** may turn off.

Furthermore, the amount of light emitted by the front light component **1214** may vary. For instance, upon a user opening the cover, the light from the front light may gradually increase to its full illumination. In some instances, the device **1200** includes an ambient light sensor (not illustrated in FIG. **12**) and the amount of illumination of the front light component **1214** may be based at least in part on the amount of ambient light detected by the ambient light sensor. For example, the front light component **1214** may be dimmer if the ambient light sensor detects relatively little ambient light, such as in a dark room; may be brighter if the ambient light sensor detects ambient light within a particular range; and may be dimmer or turned off if the ambient light sensor detects a relatively large amount of ambient light, such as direct sunlight.

In addition, the settings of the display **1202** may vary depending on whether the front light component **1214** is on or off, or based on the amount of light provided by the front light component **1214**. For instance, the electronic device **1200** may implement a larger default font or a greater contrast when the light is off compared to when the light is on. In some instances, the electronic device **1200** maintains, when the light is on, a contrast ratio for the display that is within a certain defined percentage of the contrast ratio when the light is off.

As described above, the touch sensor component **1206** may comprise a capacitive touch sensor that resides atop the display **1202**. In some examples, the touch sensor component **1206** may be formed on or integrated with the cover layer component **1216**. In other examples, the touch sensor component **1206** may be a separate component in the stack of the display assembly. The front light component **1214** may reside atop or below the touch sensor component **1206**. In some instances, either the touch sensor component **1206** or the front light component **1214** is coupled to a top surface of a protective sheet **1226** of the display **1202**. As one example, the front light component **1214** may include a lightguide sheet and a light source (not illustrated in FIG. **12**). The lightguide sheet may comprise a substrate (e.g., a transparent thermoplastic such as PMMA or other acrylic), a layer of lacquer and multiple grating elements formed in the layer of lacquer that function to propagate light from the light source towards the display **1202**, thus illuminating the display **1202**.

The cover layer component **1216** may include a transparent substrate or sheet having an outer layer that functions to reduce at least one of glare or reflection of ambient light incident on the electronic device **1200**. In some instances, the cover layer component **1216** may comprise a hard-coated polyester and/or polycarbonate film, including a base polyester or a polycarbonate, that results in a chemically bonded UV-cured hard surface coating that is scratch resistant. In some instances, the film may be manufactured with additives such that the resulting film includes a hardness rating that is greater than a predefined threshold (e.g., at least a hardness rating that is resistant to a 3H pencil). Without such scratch resistance, a device may be more easily scratched and a user may perceive the scratches from the light that is dispersed over the top of the reflective display. In some examples, the protective sheet **1226** may include a similar UV-cured hard coating on the outer surface. The cover layer component **1216** may couple to another com-

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ponent or to the protective sheet **1226** of the display **1202**. The cover layer component **1216** may, in some instances, also include a UV filter, a UV-absorbing dye, or the like, for protecting components lower in the stack from UV light incident on the electronic device **1200**. In still other examples, the cover layer component **1216** may include a sheet of high-strength glass having an antiglare and/or antireflective coating.

The display **1202** includes the protective sheet **1226** overlying an image-displaying component **1228**. For example, the display **1202** may be preassembled to have the protective sheet **1226** as an outer surface on the upper or image-viewing side of the display **1202**. Accordingly, the protective sheet **1226** may be integral with and may overlie the image-displaying component **1228**. The protective sheet **1226** may be optically transparent to enable a user to view, through the protective sheet **1226**, an image presented on the image-displaying component **1228** of the display **1202**.

In some examples, the protective sheet **1226** may be a transparent polymer film in the range of 25 to 200 micrometers in thickness. As several examples, the protective sheet may be a transparent polyester, such as polyethylene terephthalate (PET) or polyethylene naphthalate (PEN), or other suitable transparent polymer film or sheet, such as a polycarbonate or an acrylic. In some examples, the outer surface of the protective sheet **1226** may include a coating, such as the hard coating described above. For instance, the hard coating may be applied to the outer surface of the protective sheet **1226** before or after assembly of the protective sheet **1226** with the image-displaying component **1228** of the display **1202**. In some examples, the hard coating may include a photoinitiator or other reactive species in its composition, such as for curing the hard coating on the protective sheet **1226**. Furthermore, in some examples, the protective sheet **1226** may be dyed with a UV-light-absorbing dye, or may be treated with other UV-absorbing treatment. For example, the protective sheet may be treated to have a specified UV cutoff such that UV light below a cutoff or threshold wavelength is at least partially absorbed by the protective sheet **1226**, thereby protecting the image-displaying component **1228** from UV light.

According to some implementations herein, one or more of the components discussed above may be coupled to the display **1202** using fluid optically-clear adhesive (LOCA). For example, suppose that the light guide portion of the front light component **1214** is to be coupled to the display **1202**. The light guide may be coupled to the display **1202** by placing the LOCA on the outer or upper surface of the protective sheet **1226**. When the LOCA reaches the corner(s) and/or at least a portion of the perimeter of protective sheet, UV-curing may be performed on the LOCA at the corners and/or the portion of the perimeter. Thereafter, the remaining LOCA may be UV-cured and the front light component **1214** may be coupled to the LOCA. By first curing the corner(s) and/or perimeter, the techniques effectively create a barrier for the remaining LOCA and also prevent the formation of air gaps in the LOCA layer, thereby increasing the efficacy of the front light component **1214**. In other implementations, the LOCA may be placed near a center of the protective sheet **1226**, and pressed outwards towards a perimeter of the top surface of the protective sheet **1226** by placing the front light component **1214** on top of the LOCA. The LOCA may then be cured by directing UV light through the front light component **1214**. As discussed above, and as discussed additionally below, various techniques, such as surface treatment of the protective sheet, may be used to prevent discoloration of the LOCA and/or the protective sheet **1226**.

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While FIG. **12** illustrates a few example components, the electronic device **1200** may have additional features or functionality. For example, the device **1200** may also include additional data storage devices (removable and/or non-removable) such as, for example, magnetic disks, optical disks, or tape. The additional data storage media, which may reside in a control board, such as control board **124** illustrated in FIG. **2**, may include volatile and nonvolatile, removable and non-removable media implemented in any method or technology for storage of information, such as computer readable instructions, data structures, program modules, or other data. In addition, some or all of the functionality described as residing within the device **1200** may reside remotely from the device **1200** in some implementations. In these implementations, the device **1200** may utilize the communication interfaces **1218** to communicate with and utilize this functionality.

Although the subject matter has been described in language specific to structural features and/or methodological acts, it is to be understood that the subject matter defined in the appended claims is not necessarily limited to the specific features or acts described. Rather, the specific features and acts are disclosed as illustrative forms of implementing the claims.

One skilled in the art will realize that a virtually unlimited number of variations to the above descriptions are possible, and that the examples and the accompanying figures are merely to illustrate one or more examples of implementations.

It will be understood by those skilled in the art that various other modifications can be made, and equivalents can be substituted, without departing from claimed subject matter. Additionally, many modifications can be made to adapt a particular situation to the teachings of claimed subject matter without departing from the central concept described herein. Therefore, it is intended that claimed subject matter not be limited to the particular embodiments disclosed, but that such claimed subject matter can also include all embodiments falling within the scope of the appended claims, and equivalents thereof.

In the detailed description above, numerous specific details are set forth to provide a thorough understanding of claimed subject matter. However, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that claimed subject matter can be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, methods, apparatuses, or systems that would be known by one of ordinary skill have not been described in detail so as not to obscure claimed subject matter.

Reference throughout this specification to “one embodiment” or “an embodiment” can mean that a particular feature, structure, or characteristic described in connection with a particular embodiment can be included in at least one embodiment of claimed subject matter. Thus, appearances of the phrase “in one embodiment” or “an embodiment” in various places throughout this specification are not necessarily intended to refer to the same embodiment or to any one particular embodiment described. Furthermore, it is to be understood that particular features, structures, or characteristics described can be combined in various ways in one or more embodiments. In general, of course, these and other issues can vary with the particular context of usage. Therefore, the particular context of the description or the usage of these terms can provide helpful guidance regarding inferences to be drawn for that context.

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What is claimed is:

1. A display device comprising:
a glass substrate including:
one or more pixel arrays formed on the glass substrate,
wherein the pixel arrays include:
first pixel walls that partition individual pixels of the
pixel arrays and at least partially retain a first fluid
within respective individual pixels,
second pixel walls, and
a second fluid to cover (i) the first pixel walls and the
second pixel walls and (ii) the first fluid, wherein
the first pixel walls have a first height and the second
pixel walls have a second height, wherein the first
height is greater than the second height, and the first
pixel walls are aligned in a first direction to direct a
flow of the second fluid toward a second direction.
2. The display device of claim 1, wherein the pixel arrays
further include spacers that extend above the first pixel
walls.
3. The display device of claim 1, wherein the pixel arrays
further include spacers, and wherein (i) the spacers and (ii)
the first pixel walls extend substantially a same distance
from the glass substrate.
4. A display device comprising:
an array of display elements formed on a transparent
substrate, wherein the array of display elements
includes
a first fluid,
a second fluid shared among the display elements, pixel
walls that (i) partition the display elements from one
another and (ii) at least partially retain the first fluid
in each of the display elements, wherein first por-
tions of the pixel walls (i) extend substantially fur-
ther from the transparent substrate than second por-
tions of the pixel walls and (ii) extend into the second
fluid; and
spacers that extend substantially further from the trans-
parent substrate than the first portions of the pixel
walls.
5. The display device of claim 4, wherein the first portions
of the pixel walls comprise a first material and the second
portions of the pixel walls comprise a second material
identical to the first material.
6. The display device of claim 5, wherein the first material
comprises a photoresist material.
7. The display device of claim 4, wherein the first portions
of the pixel walls are aligned in a first direction on the
substrate to direct a flow of the second fluid toward a second
direction.
8. The display device of claim 4, further comprising:
a transparent top plate at least partially covering (i) the
array of display elements formed on the transparent
substrate, (ii) an edge seal, and (iii) the spacers.

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9. The display device claim 4, wherein the spacers extend
a first distance from the transparent substrate, wherein the
first portions of the pixel walls extend a second distance
from the transparent substrate, and wherein the first distance
is substantially the same as the second distance.

10. The display device of claim 4, wherein the first fluid
is an electrically nonconductive oil and the second fluid is an
electrically conductive solution or a polar solution.

11. The display device of claim 4, wherein the first
portions of the pixel walls extend a first distance from the
transparent substrate and the second portions of the pixel
walls extend a second distance from the transparent sub-
strate, wherein the second distance is about 1.5 to about 4.0
times greater than the first distance.

12. The display device of claim 4, wherein the display
elements comprise electrowetting display elements.

13. The display device of claim 4, wherein the longest
dimension of each of the first portions of the pixel walls is
parallel to the transparent substrate and is aligned in the
same direction as rows of the display elements.

14. A display device comprising:

a display element formed on a substrate, wherein the
display element includes

a pixel wall at least partially surrounding the display
element, wherein a first portion of the pixel wall
extends substantially further from the substrate than
a second portion of the pixel wall,

a first fluid,

a second fluid covering (i) the first fluid and (ii) the first
portion and the second portion of the pixel wall, and
a spacer that extends substantially further from the
transparent substrate than the first portion of the
pixel wall.

15. The display device of claim 14, wherein the first
portion of the pixel wall comprises a first material and the
second portion of the pixel wall comprises a second material
identical to the first material.

16. The display device of claim 14, wherein the first
portion of the pixel wall is aligned in a first direction on the
substrate to direct a flow of the second fluid toward a second
direction.

17. The display device of claim 14, wherein the first
portion of the pixel wall extends a first distance from the
transparent substrate and the second portion of the pixel wall
extends a second distance from the transparent substrate,
wherein the second distance is about 1.5 to about 4.0 times
greater than the first distance.

18. The display device of claim 1, wherein the first pixel
walls and the second pixel walls comprise a photoresist
material.

19. The display device of claim 1, wherein the first pixel
walls are oriented substantially perpendicularly to the sec-
ond pixel walls.

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